GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
PANCHAYATI RAJ
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1434
ANSWERED ON:24.11.2016
Training for Members of Panchayats
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Will the Minister of PANCHAYATI RAJ be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Union Government has taken any measures for training and capacity building of elected members of the Panchayat institutions across the country;
(b) if so, the details thereof;
(c) the amount of money that has been spent on the same during the last three years and the current years, State/ UT-wise;
(d) whether any study was conducted to measures the effectiveness of the training programmes undertaken by the Government; and
(e) if so, the details thereof?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PANCHAYATI RAJ
(SHRI PARSHOTTAM RUPALA)

(a) to (c) Under the scheme of Rajiv Gandhi Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan (RGPSA), implemented during 12th five year plan upto 2015-16, this Ministry has provided financial assistance to the States for the Capacity Building and Training (CB&T) of different stakeholders including Elected Representatives (ERs). During the current financial year, funds have been provided to States for Capacity Building & Training (CB&T) under "Capacity Building- Panchayat Sashaktikaran Abhiyan" which is the component of the proposed scheme of Rashtriya Gram Swaraj Abhiyan (RGSA). Details of funds released to States/ UTs including Capacity Building & Training (CB&T) and expenditure incurred on CB&T during last three years (2013-14 to 2015-16) and current year are at Annexe- I.
Under the erstwhile scheme of Backward Region Grant Funds Programme (BRGF), funds were also provided for capacity building of ERs and Panchayat Functionaries (PFs) under the capacity building component. The BRGF has been delinked from the budgetary support of the Central Government w.e.f. 2015-16. Details of funds released and expenditure incurred under the Capacity Building Component of BRGF during the year 2013-14 and 2014-15 are at Annexe-II.
Besides, the Government has taken several measures for enhancing capacity of stakeholders of Panchayats which includes revision of National Capability Building Framework, reading material for Panchayat stakeholders, strategic workshops, etc.
(d) & (e) No evaluation study of RGPSA has been undertaken. For BRGF scheme, an independent review-cum-evaluation was undertaken by the World Bank in eight States in 2009. The World Bank in its report noted that the BRGF has stimulated a process of strengthening of Panchayati Raj Institutions/ULBs, particularly in backward States and districts, and laid the foundation for achieving several of its objectives. NITI Aayog (erstwhile Planning Commission) had also undertaken an evaluation study of BRGF covering the period 2006-07 to 2010-11 in 16 States. The evaluation study looked into various aspects of the Programme including financial and physical progress, role of PRIs, convergence of resources from various schemes, accrued benefits to the target group/area, training, monitoring mechanism, etc., and assessed the impact of the Programme on the beneficiaries.